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Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 94 (c)

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993 and its resolution 49/102 of 19 December 1994,

Recalling also the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the First 1/ and the Second 2/ Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, held in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993 and from 19 to 22 June 1995 respectively, and in particular the conclusions and recommendations of the above meetings pertaining to the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

Recognizing that the overall socio-economic development efforts of these countries, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multicountry transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea as well as by remoteness and isolation from world markets,

Supporting the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing

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1/ TD/B/40 (1)/2-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4.

2/ TD/B/42 (1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7.

neighbours through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements to address the issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

Considering that the outcome of the Symposium for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 14 to 16 June 1995, in particular the document entitled "Proposals for the development of a global framework for transit transport cooperation between landlocked and transit developing countries and the donor community", 3/ is a practical contribution to the development objectives and efforts of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development entitled "Progress report on measures designed to improve the transit transport environment in Central Asia", 4/ and considering that the problems of transit transport facing the Central Asian region need to be seen against the backdrop of economic changes and the accompanying challenges, including especially the impact of these changes on the international and intraregional trade of the countries concerned,

Recognizing that, to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inhering in the use of existing transit routes and the early development and smooth functioning of new, alternative routes,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

1. Takes note of the results of the Technical Meeting on Central Asia's Transit Transport Links with World Markets, 5/ held in Ankara, Turkey, from 7 to 9 November 1995, under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Governments concerned, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional and international organizations and in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to continue elaborating a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

3/ UNCTAD/LLDC/SYMP/5.

4/ A/51/288, annex.

5/ See UNCTAD/LLDC/MISC.4, 1996.

3. Invites donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to provide newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment for these countries;

4. Calls upon the United Nations system to continue studying, within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution, possible ways of promoting more effective cooperative arrangements between landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit neighbours and to encourage a more active supportive role on the part of the donor community;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

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MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING NET TRANSFER OF RESOURCES BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

Net flows and transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/178 of 22 December 1992 and 49/93 of 19 December 1994 on net flows and transfer of resources between developing countries and developed countries,

Taking note of the World Economic and Social Survey, 1996, 1/ in particular chapter III thereof, entitled "The international economy", and the report of the Secretary-General on the net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries", 2/

Recognizing that the international community has a responsibility for giving strong support to the efforts of developing countries to solve their grave economic and social problems through the creation of a favourable international economic environment,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.11.C.1.

2/ A/51/291.

Noting that for many developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, official development assistance remains an indispensable external source of financial resources to support their development efforts,

Stressing the unpredictable character of short-term private capital movements, which are particularly subject to interest-rate variations and other possible fluctuations in the domestic and international economic environment,

Expressing its concern that the net transfer of resources from multilateral financial institutions to developing countries has been negative in real terms,

Expressing its deep concern at the overall decline in the level of official development assistance,

1. Stresses the need to increase efforts to ensure the flow of substantial resources to developing countries, through, inter alia, an expansion of multilateral credits, the promotion of foreign direct investment and an increase in resources in the concessional and non-debt category;

2. Reaffirms the pressing need of developing countries for official development assistance and the urgent need for the industrialized countries to substantially increase that assistance so as to reach the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance as soon as possible;

3. Urges all countries, particularly the major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing the international economic environment, to apply sound macroeconomic policies, to continue to narrow global economic imbalances between the developed and developing countries, to cooperate with the developing countries so as to enhance their capacities to address and alleviate their major problems in the areas of money, finance, resource flows, trade, commodities and external indebtedness, and to promote an international economic system more conducive to a favourable international economic environment and sustained economic growth, particularly in developing countries;

4. Stresses the importance of the role of International Development Association as a highly concessional lending arm of the World Bank in promoting development in the developing countries and urges donors to fully honour their commitment thereto, in particular to the eleventh replenishment of the International Development Association, and to secure its adequate future funding;

5. Appeals to all countries, particularly the developed countries, to cooperate and work together on issues relating to the financing of the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility during this interim period, including the sale by the International Monetary Fund of a part of its gold reserves, with a view to the achieving of a self-sustained Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility;

6. Urges international financial institutions and donor countries to improve the quality of their loans, inter alia, through an extension of their maturity, a lowering of their interest rates and an increase in the grant

elements of such loans, and the removal of conditionalities, so as to enable the recipient countries to fully utilize the loans for their own development purposes;

7. Calls upon international financial institutions and donor countries to remove non-economic barriers that seriously restrict their provision of loans to developing countries;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor developments in the net flows and transfer of resources between developing and developed countries and, utilizing all relevant reports, such as those provided by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the regional development banks, to report thereon in the World Economic and Social Survey, 1997, and also requests the Secretary-General to report, in close cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Bretton Woods institutions, to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.